

XXVII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

(Continued from p. 198.)

35. *Streets on the Natural History of the Hawaiian and Fanning Islands and Lower California.*

[Contributions to the Natural History of the Hawaiian and Fanning Islands and Lower California. By Thomas H. Streets, M.D. Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. No. 7.]

The collections which form the subject of this paper were made during a surveying cruise in the North Pacific by the U.S. S. 'Portsmouth.' The most interesting portion of the part relating to the Birds is that which treats of birds of the Fanning Islands, a small group situated to the southward of the Sandwich Islands, and of which, ornithologically speaking, little was previously known. It was here Dr. Streets obtained *Coriphilus kuhli**, the locality of which was previously undetermined; and here, too, he obtained the Gadwall recently described as *Chaulelasmus couesi*†. A Petrel obtained on Christmas Island also appears to be new, and is here called *Puffinus nativitatis*. The other species mentioned are mostly from Lower California and the Sandwich Islands, and, though of interest, do not call for any special comment on our part.

36. *Prjevalsky's Expedition to Lob-nor.*

[Reise des Russischen Generalstabs-Obersten N. B. Przewalsky von Kuldscha über den Thian-Schan an den Lob-Nor und Altyn-Tag, 1876 und 1877. Uebersetzung des an die k. russ. geographische Gesellschaft in St. Petersburg gerichteten offiziellen Berichtes von Przewalsky, D. D. Kuldscha 18. August, 1877. Petermann's Mittheilungen, Ergänzungsheft No. 35.]

In this memoir will be found a preliminary account of the distinguished Russian traveller Prjevalsky's last expedition to the southern confines of the great Gobi desert in 1876-77. There are many zoological remarks. A list is given of the birds (48) found wintering on the Tarim, which runs into Lob-nor. Two new species, *Podoces tarimensis* and *Rhopophilus deserti*, are mentioned, but not described. An ac-

* Cf. Sclater, P. Z. S. 1876, p. 421.

† Cf. 'Ibis,' 1877, p. 242.

count is also given of the birds of the lake itself, and of those of the Altyn-tag Mountains which border it on the south.

37. Finsch on New Finches.

[Ueber eine anscheinend neue Webervogelart. Von Dr. O. Finsch in Bremen. Der geldwangige rothschnäblige Webervogel (*Ploceus russi*, Finsch). Die gefiederte Welt, No. 31 (1877).]

[Ueber eine anscheinend neue Prachtfinkart. Von Dr. Otto Finsch in Bremen. Wiener's Astrild (*Pytelia wieneri*, Russ). Die gefiederte Welt, No. 32 (1877).]

Dr. Finsch describes these two apparently new Finches from specimens originally brought alive to Europe. The type of the *Ploceus russi*, from West Africa, is still living in Dr. Dr. Carl Russ's aviary. Of the *Pytelia*, which is allied to *P. melba*, four living specimens, said to be from Australia, were purchased by Hr. Wiener; but one is since dead, and has been submitted to Dr. Finsch's examination.

38. Oustalet on New Birds from Saigon and New Guinea.

[Description de quelques espèces nouvelles de la Cochinchine et de la Nouvelle-Guinée, par M. E. Oustalet. Extrait du Bull. Soc. Philomat. de Paris, Dec. 1877.]

The species described as new are *Chætura cochinchinensis* and *Ixus germaini*, from the vicinity of Saigon, and *Pachycephala squalida*, from Amberbaki, New Guinea (*Laglaize*). M. Oustalet adds remarks on other *Pachycephalæ* and *Rectes* from M. Laglaize's collection, and establishes the fact that *Hypothymis menadensis* of Quoy and Gaimard is from New Guinea (not Celebes)*, and is a *Monarcha*, perhaps = *M. dichroa*, Wallace.

39. Oustalet on New Birds in the Museum of Natural History, Paris.

[Description de quelques espèces nouvelles de la collection ornithologique du Muséum d'histoire naturelle, par M. E. Oustalet. Extrait du Bull. Soc. Philomat. de Paris, 7^e sér. t. i. no. 3, 1877.]

In this paper M. Oustalet describes *Loxioides bailleui*, a

* Cf. Walden, Trans. Zool. Soc. viii. p. 66.

singular new type allied to *Psittirostra*, from the Sandwich Islands (the exact island is not stated). An account is given of a small collection from the Seychelles, in which are specimens of a new species from Marianna Island, proposed to be called *Ellisia seychellensis*. M. Oustalet finally gives remarks on a Pratincole obtained by M. Marche in Western Africa, which he was at first inclined to consider as new, but subsequently to identify with *Glareola nuchalis*, Gray. He adds a list of species recently obtained by M. Marche in Gaboon.

40. *Brüggemann on the Ornithology of Central Borneo.*

[Weitere Mittheilungen über die Ornithologie von Central-Borneo. Von D. F. Brüggemann. Abth. nat. Ver. z. Bremen, vol. v. p. 525.]

In this memoir the late Dr. Brüggemann gives an account of the additional collections* recently transmitted by Dr. G. Fischer to the Grand-Ducal Museum in Darmstadt from Moora Teweh in Central Borneo. Moora Teweh lies nearly in the centre of the island, under the equator, in long. 115° E. The collection contained 859 specimens, referable to 152 species. No new species are described; but there are many important notes.

41. *Fischer on doubtful Celebean Birds.*

[Bemerkungen über zweifelhafte celebensische Vögel. Von Dr. G. Fischer. Abh. nat. Ver. z. Bremen, vol. v. p. 538.]

Dr. Fischer here gives information in correction of the localities attributed to certain species of birds mentioned in Dr. Brüggemann's "Beitrage z. Orn. v. Celebes u. Sangir" (Abh. nat. Ver. z. Bremen, v. p. 35).

42. *Sharpe's Contributions to the Ornithology of New Guinea.*

[Contributions to the Ornithology of New Guinea. By R. Bowdler Sharpe, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c. Part ii. On the Ornithological Collections formed by the late Dr. James in South-eastern New Guinea and Yule Island. Journ. Linn. Soc. (Zoology) vol. xiii. pp. 305-321.]

The collection spoken of was made on Yule Island and on

* Cf. *antea*, p. 108.

the opposite main coast, where Dr. James was attacked and killed by natives in 1876. Fifty-four species are enumerated. The new species described are *Tunysiptera microrhyncha*, allied to *T. galatea*, and *Melidora collaris*, allied to *M. macrorrhina*. A most unexpected occurrence is that of the singular bird of prey *Machærorhamphus alcinus*, of which a single specimen was procured by Dr. James at Nicura, on the mainland of New Guinea.

43. *Lawrence on a New Parrot.*

[Description of a New Species of Parrot of the Genus *Chrysotis*. By George N. Lawrence. Ann. N.Y. Acad. of Sci. vol. i. No. 4.]

This species is named *C. lactifrons*, and is based on a specimen formerly living in the Central-Park Menagerie, New York, and said to have been brought from Bahia. It belongs to the group of *C. sallæi*, *C. collaria*, and its allies, and is probably a native of one of the West-India Islands.

44. *Camerano on the Anatomy of Nasiterna pusio.*

[Intorno all'anatomia della *Nasiterna pusio*, ScI. Note di Lorenzo Camerano. Atti d. Reale Accad. d. sci. Torino, vol. xiii. Gennaio 1878.]

Contains an account of the anatomy of this singular little Parrot, based on a specimen obtained from Mr. Krefft, of Sydney, during the voyage of the 'Magenta.' Both carotids are present; there are no cæca, nor any furcula. (Cf. Sclater, P. Z. S. 1865, p. 620.)

45. *Pelzeln's Report on the Progress of Ornithology in 1876.*

[Bericht über die Leistungen in der Naturgeschichte der Vögel während des Jahres 1876. Von August von Pelzeln. (Wieg. Arch. xliii.)

No words are necessary to commend to the readers of 'The Ibis' Hr. v. Pelzeln's Report on the progress of our special branch of science during the year 1876, which should be in the hands of every ornithologist.